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11000 U.S. PTO
09/978567
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: K. MABUCHI et al
Serial No. 09/378,768
Filed: August 23, 1999
Group Art Unit: 1744
Examiner: ~~E. Smith Hicks~~ Phasgc
For: A STEEL STRIP DESCALING APPARATUS
AND A STEEL STRIP MANUFACTURING
APPARATUS USING THE DESCALING
APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

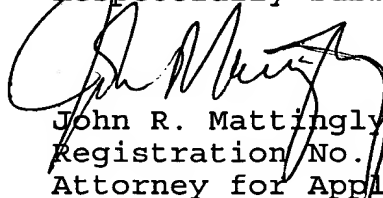
In accordance with the duty of disclosure, the applicants inform the Examiner of the documents cited during prosecution of the parent application, Serial No. 09/378,768.

The above-referenced patent application is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/378,768 filed August 23, 1999, from which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C.

§ 120.

Applicants request the Examiner to initial and return a copy of the attached PTO-1449 form to indicate that the references have been considered.

Respectfully submitted,


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